

Appendix 2. Interpretation of Bias Assessmentsⁱ

Judgement	Within each domain	Across Domains	Criterion
Low risk of bias	The study is comparable to a well performed randomized trial with regard to this domain	The study is comparable to a well performed randomized trial	The study is judged to be at low risk of bias for all domains
Moderate risk of bias	The study is sound for a non-randomized study with regard to this domain but cannot be considered comparable to a well performed randomized trial	The study provides sound evidence for a non-randomized study but cannot be considered comparable to a well performed randomized trial	The study is judged to be at low or moderate risk of bias for all domains
Serious risk of bias	The study has some important problems in this domain	The study has some important problems	The study is judged to be at serious risk of bias in at least one domain, but not at critical risk of bias in any domain
Critical risk of bias	The study is too problematic in this domain to provide any useful evidence on the effects of intervention	The study is too problematic to provide any useful evidence and should not be included in any synthesis	The study is judged to be at critical risk of bias in at least one domain

ⁱ Sterne Jonathan AC, Hernán Miguel A, Reeves Barnaby C, Savović Jelena, Berkman Nancy D, Viswanathan Meera et al. ROBINS-I: a tool for assessing risk of bias in non-randomised studies of interventions BMJ 2016; 355 :i4919